

MAR - 1 2013

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE GOVERNOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM, BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I, BOARD OF EDUCATION, AND HAWAI'I'S
CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO STRENGTHEN THE SISTER-STATE
RELATIONSHIP WITH TAIWAN IN COMMEMORATION OF THE TWENTIETH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HAWAI'I
AND TAIWAN.

1 WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States have long enjoyed a
2 cordial friendship based on shared common interests in promoting
3 peace, stability, and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region; and
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5 WHEREAS, Taiwan is one of the United States' most important
6 economic and security partners in Asia; and
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8 WHEREAS, Hawai'i established a sister-state relationship
9 with Taiwan in 1993, but an economic relationship was already
10 established before then; and
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12 WHEREAS, over the years, there have been few overseas
13 locations with more cultural and economic activity than Taiwan,
14 including business missions, educational and special promotional
15 fairs, cultural exchanges, investor seminars, media productions,
16 and gubernatorial visits; and
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18 WHEREAS, in 1994, the Department of Business, Economic
19 Development, and Tourism opened the State of Hawai'i Office in
20 Taipei to take advantage of the rapidly increasing investor
21 interest in Hawai'i, symbolized by the purchase of several well-
22 known resort hotels; and
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24 WHEREAS, the Governor is urged to support a free trade
25 agreement between the United States and Taiwan and further
26 support Taiwan's participation in regional economic integration
27 such as Trans Pacific Partnerships; and
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1 WHEREAS, following the recent addition of Taiwan to the
2 United States Visa Waiver Program, Hawaiian Airlines and China
3 Airlines will soon provide direct flights between Honolulu and
4 Taipei, and the Department of Business, Economic Development,
5 and Tourism should seize the golden opportunity to launch
6 effective promotion campaigns in order to attract more tourists
7 from Taiwan; and
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9 WHEREAS, Taiwan's energy policy is similar to Hawai'i in
10 that both seek to increase energy efficiency and promote greater
11 use of renewable sources to reduce dependence on imported fossil
12 fuels; therefore, the Department of Business, Economic
13 Development, and Tourism should collaborate on research and
14 development of clean energy technologies and cooperate on the
15 development of sustainable industries and green projects; and
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17 WHEREAS, Hawai'i and Taiwan have rich and diverse cultural
18 backgrounds, since Taiwan's indigenous people and the native
19 Hawaiians are part of the Austronesian culture ring; therefore,
20 the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is
21 requested to welcome Taiwan's participation in international
22 cultural events held in Hawai'i, such as the "2013 Honolulu
23 Festival" and the "2013 Asia Pacific Dance Festival"; and
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25 WHEREAS, Hawai'i and Taiwan have their own distinct features
26 when it comes to education and both countries have much to
27 mutually learn from one another; therefore, the Board of Regents
28 of the University of Hawai'i and the Board of Education are urged
29 to strengthen an educational relationship with Taiwan by
30 encouraging more exchange students to travel between the two
31 countries and to advocate for more academic cooperation
32 opportunities; and
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34 WHEREAS, Hawai'i's Congressional delegation is urged to
35 support Taiwan's participation in international bodies, such as
36 the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), The United
37 National Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and
38 the World Health Organization (WHO) and is requested to continue
39 to support Taiwan's meaningful participation in the
40 international arena for the common good of all peoples of the
41 world; now, therefore,
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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Governor; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i; Board of Education; and Hawai'i's Congressional delegation are urged to strengthen the sister-state relationship with Taiwan in commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the sister-state relationship between Hawai'i and Taiwan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i; Board of Education; and each member of Hawai'i's Congressional delegation.

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